



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 149

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JUNE 2, 2003

No. 79

## House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
June 2, 2003.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

Sister Cecilia Thuy Nguyen, OP, Doctoral Candidate, The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Lord, we praise You for the wonders of Your creation, for the miracles You have wrought and will continue to work in our lives. We thank You for the great resources of this land and for the freedom which has been its heritage.

Lord, forgive us our sins that we as a Nation and as individuals have committed and give us a renewed hope in Your divine mercy.

Grant us a fruitful economy born of justice and charity. Inspire our President and all the officials of our government to serve the people of the United States with equity and integrity. Guide the Members of the House of Representatives gathered here today. Grant them the courage to speak with the voice of the people they represent. Bestow upon them the wisdom to seek what is pleasing in Your eyes and what is conformable with the freedom and happiness of the American people. Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed bills and concurrent resolutions of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 858. An act to extend the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, and for other purposes.

S. 878. An act to authorize an additional permanent judgeship in the district of Idaho, and for other purpose.

S. Con. Res. 7. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the sharp escalation of anti-Semitic violence within many participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) is of profound concern and efforts should be undertaken to prevent future occurrences.

S. Con. Res. 43. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Congress should participate in and support activities to provide decent homes for the people of the United States.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 105-292, as amended by Public Law 105-55, and as further amended by Public Law 107-228, the Chair, on behalf of the President

pro tempore, upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader, appoints the following individuals to the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom:

Preeta D. Bansal of Nebraska, vice Charles Richard Stith, for a term of one year (May 15, 2003-May 14, 2004).

Most Reverend Ricardo Ramirez, C.S.B. of New Mexico, vice Dr. Firuz Kazemzadeh, for a term of two years (May 15, 2003-May 14, 2005).

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, May 23, 2003.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
*Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 23, 2003 at 5:11 p.m.

That the Senate passed without amendment H. Con. Res. 191.

That the Senate passed without amendment H. R. 192.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

MARTHA C. MORRISON,  
*Deputy Clerk of the House.*

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, May 23, 2003.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 23, 2003 at 3:17 p.m.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2185.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. Res. 51.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL,  
Clerk of the House.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, May 23, 2003.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 23, 2003 at 12:10 p.m.

That the Senate agreed to conference report H.R. 2.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL,  
Clerk of the House.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair desires to announce that pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the Speaker pro tempore TOM DAVIS of Virginia signed the following enrolled bills and joint resolution on Friday, May 23, 2003:

H.R. 2, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201 of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2004;

H.R. 2185, to extend the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 2002; and

H.J. Res. 51, increasing the statutory limit on the public debt.

#### MONUMENTAL DEFECT IN TAX BILL

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, as the ink is now drying on the tax bill of 2 weeks ago, and as the President and the Republican Party were looting the Treasury and the Social Security System of this Nation on behalf of the wealthiest people

in this Nation, we now see there is a monumental defect in this bill in terms of its unfairness and its greed, and that is that millions of working families making wages between \$10,500 a year and \$26,000 a year will not get to participate in the increase and in the child tax credit. That means they will not get their \$400 increase this summer that families with children are entitled to get under the tax bill.

Why? Because Republicans simply decided that these people were not worthy of that tax cut, as though it was less expensive to raise their children or their children were not equal to the children of people making over \$30,000 a year. An incredible act. An incredible act of greed. An incredible act of unfairness to hard-working families in this country.

#### TAX BILL CREATES NEW JOBS

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, I just want to speak and say a few positive things about the tax bill that was so heavily attacked a moment ago. I had the opportunity in North Carolina over the past weekend to speak to a group concerning the positive aspects of this thing, the job-creation part of it.

As many of my colleagues in this body recognize, I own a small manufacturing company in Hickory, North Carolina; and the tax benefits in this program, with the increased appreciation, makes decisions much more likely to be made, at least as far as my own little company is concerned.

With that 50 percent tax break and depreciation allowance the first year, we have made a decision that we made today, before I left home, that we will purchase a machine that costs \$150,000. That machine, the moment it is delivered to our company, will create six jobs.

I do not know what else anybody else knows about this tax bill, I know there is a whole bunch of discussion about taxes for the rich and taxes for the poor, but this idea of creating new jobs by our tax bill is first class, and I want to say I greatly appreciate it.

#### HOURLY OF MEETING ON TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2003

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today it adjourn to meet at 10:30 a.m. tomorrow for morning hour debates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair

will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

#### EXPRESSING PROFOUND SORROW ON THE OCCASION OF THE DEATH OF IRMA RANGEL

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 159) expressing profound sorrow on the occasion of the death of Irma Rangel.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 159

Whereas Irma Rangel, in 1977, became the first Mexican-American woman ever elected to the Texas House of Representatives;

Whereas Irma Rangel served the great State of Texas and the people of Kingsville with honor and distinction for 26 years as a Member of the Texas House of Representatives;

Whereas Irma Rangel was Chairwoman of the Texas House of Representatives Committee on Higher Education and was a tireless advocate of educational opportunities for all students;

Whereas Irma Rangel recognized the value of higher education for all young people of Texas and introduced the 10 percent rule legislation that entitled all highly motivated and successful Texas high school students who graduated in the top 10 percent of their high school class to be admitted into Texas institutions of higher education, marking a shift in college admissions;

Whereas Irma Rangel recognized the importance of creating a professional school of pharmacy in South Texas and worked diligently to realize that vision;

Whereas Irma Rangel was a staunch supporter of Texas Grant 1 and Texas Grant 2, which provided tuition and fees for students who graduated under the recommended plan and extended those opportunities to community college students;

Whereas Irma Rangel dedicated her life to make Texas better for all its citizenry, improve the quality of life for the people she served, and especially expand educational opportunities for the young people of Texas;

Whereas the life and legacy of Irma Rangel serve as an inspiration for the young people of Texas and for the poor and powerless for whom she fought so passionately;

Whereas Irma Rangel was a role model for young Hispanic female students in achieving success;

Whereas Irma Rangel placed high value on self-empowerment, which enabled individuals to access opportunities to achieve their goals; and

Whereas Irma Rangel will forever be remembered for her signature phrase, "Will this hurt or help?" when addressing pending legislation before the Texas House of Representatives: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) has learned with profound sorrow of the death of Irma Rangel on March 18, 2003, and extends condolences to her family;

(2) expresses its deep gratitude to Irma Rangel and her family for the service that she rendered to the State of Texas;

(3) recognizes with appreciation and respect Irma Rangel's exemplary commitment to public service and her constituents; and